

Abstract

This invention provides a novel compound which can be properly used as a surfactant, a method of producing a fluoropolymer, surfactant and a fluoropolymer aqueous dispersions using the novel compound.

This invention is a fluoroalkylcarboxylic acid derivative which is represented by the general formula (i):
$$\text{Rf}^1(\text{OCH}_2\text{CF}_2\text{CF}_2)_{n1}\text{OCX}^1\text{X}^2\text{CF}_2(\text{Rf}^2)_{n2}\text{COOM} \quad (\text{i})$$

wherein Rf^1 represents a straight or branched fluoroalkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which fluoroalkyl group may optionally contain 1 to 5 oxygen atoms in the principal chain thereof, Rf^2 represents a straight or branched fluoroalkylene group containing 1 to 25 carbon atoms, said fluoroalkylene group may optionally contain 1 to 5 oxygen atoms in the principal chain thereof, $n1$ represents an integer of 0 to 3, $n2$ represents an integer of 0 or 1, X^1 and X^2 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen atom or fluorine atom, and M represents NH_4 or a monovalent metal element.